



(21)(A1) **2,248,987**
(22) 1998/10/28
(43) 1999/11/13

(72) SOUTHAN, Christopher Donald, GB

(72) BURGESS, Nicola Anne, GB

(71) SMITHKLINE BEECHAM P.L.C., GB

(51) Int.Cl.⁶ C12N 15/57, A61K 31/70, C12Q 1/68, C12N 9/64, G01N 33/573,
A61K 38/48, C07K 16/40, C12Q 1/37, A61K 48/00

(30) 1998/05/13 (9810373.2) GB

(30) 1998/08/18 (9818009.4) GB

(54) COMPOSES NOUVEAUX

(54) NOVEL COMPOUNDS

(57) MPROT15 polypeptides and polynucleotides and methods for producing such polypeptides by recombinant techniques are disclosed. Also disclosed are methods for utilizing MPROT15 polypeptides and polynucleotides in therapy, and diagnostic assays for such.

A3 - 09/563,516



Industrie Canada Industry Canada

GP30129

Novel Compounds**Field of the Invention**

This invention relates to newly identified polypeptides and polynucleotides encoding such polypeptides, to their use in therapy and in identifying compounds which may be agonists, 5 antagonists and /or inhibitors which are potentially useful in therapy, and to production of such polypeptides and polynucleotides.

Background of the Invention

- The drug discovery process is currently undergoing a fundamental revolution as it embraces 10 'functional genomics', that is, high throughput genome- or gene-based biology. This approach as a means to identify genes and gene products as therapeutic targets is rapidly superceding earlier approaches based on 'positional cloning'. A phenotype, that is a biological function or genetic disease, would be identified and this would then be tracked back to the responsible gene, based on its genetic map position.
- 15 Functional genomics relies heavily on high-throughput DNA sequencing technologies and the various tools of bioinformatics to identify gene sequences of potential interest from the many molecular biology databases now available. There is a continuing need to identify and characterise further genes and their related polypeptides/proteins, as targets for drug discovery.

20 Summary of the Invention

- The present invention relates to MPROT15, in particular MPROT15 polypeptides and MPROT15 polynucleotides, recombinant materials and methods for their production. In another aspect, the invention relates to methods for using such polypeptides and polynucleotides, including the treatment of hypertension, cardiomyopathy, stroke, heart disease, neurodegeneration, 25 Alzheimer's disease and diseases associated with peptide hormone or cytokine processing, hereinafter referred to as "the Diseases", amongst others. In a further aspect, the invention relates to methods for identifying agonists and antagonists/inhibitors using the materials provided by the invention, and treating conditions associated with MPROT15 imbalance with the identified compounds. In a still further aspect, the invention relates to diagnostic assays for detecting diseases 30 associated with inappropriate MPROT15 activity or levels.

Description of the Invention

In a first aspect, the present invention relates to MPROT15 polypeptides. Such peptides include isolated polypeptides comprising an amino acid sequence which has at least 70% identity,

GP30129

preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, most preferably at least 97-99% identity, to that of SEQ ID NO:2 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:2. Such polypeptides include those comprising the amino acid of SEQ ID NO:2.

5 Further peptides of the present invention include isolated polypeptides in which the amino acid sequence has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, most preferably at least 97-99% identity, to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:2. Such polypeptides include the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.

10 Further peptides of the present invention include isolated polypeptides encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:1.

15 Polypeptides of the present invention are believed to be members of the metalloprotease family of polypeptides. They are therefore of interest because metalloproteases play critical roles in some disease pathologies. Therfore designing or screening for selective protease antagonists or agonists can lead to the development of new drugs (Seife, C., Science 277, 1602-1603). These properties are hereinafter referred to as "MPROT15 activity" or "MPROT15 polypeptide activity" or "biological activity of MPROT15". Also included amongst these activities are antigenic and immunogenic activities of said MPROT15 polypeptides, in particular the antigenic and immunogenic activities of the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2. Preferably, a polypeptide of the

20 present invention exhibits at least one biological activity of MPROT15.

25 The polypeptides of the present invention may be in the form of the "mature" protein or may be a part of a larger protein such as a precursor or a fusion protein. It is often advantageous to include an additional amino acid sequence which contains secretory or leader sequences, pro-sequences, sequences which aid in purification such as multiple histidine residues, or an additional sequence for stability during recombinant production.

30 The present invention also includes variants of the aforementioned polypeptides, that is polypeptides that vary from the referents by conservative amino acid substitutions, whereby a residue is substituted by another with like characteristics. Typical such substitutions are among Ala, Val, Leu and Ile; among Ser and Thr; among the acidic residues Asp and Glu; among Asn and Gln; and among the basic residues Lys and Arg; or aromatic residues Phe and Tyr. Particularly preferred are variants in which several, 5-10, 1-5, 1-3, 1-2 or 1 amino acids are substituted, deleted, or added in any combination.

Polypeptides of the present invention can be prepared in any suitable manner. Such polypeptides include isolated naturally occurring polypeptides, recombinantly produced

GP30129

polypeptides, synthetically produced polypeptides, or polypeptides produced by a combination of these methods. Means for preparing such polypeptides are well understood in the art.

In a further aspect, the present invention relates to MPROT15 polynucleotides. Such polynucleotides include isolated polynucleotides comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:2. In this regard, polypeptides which have at least 97% identity are highly preferred, whilst those with at least 98-99% identity are more highly preferred, and those with at least 99% identity are most highly preferred. Such polynucleotides 10 include a polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:1 encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.

Further polynucleotides of the present invention include isolated polynucleotides comprising a nucleotide sequence that has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, to a nucleotide 15 sequence encoding a polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2, over the entire coding region. In this regard, polynucleotides which have at least 97% identity are highly preferred, whilst those with at least 98-99% identity are more highly preferred, and those with at least 99% identity are most highly preferred.

Further polynucleotides of the present invention include isolated polynucleotides 20 comprising a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, to SEQ ID NO:1 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:1. In this regard, polynucleotides which have at least 97% identity are highly preferred, whilst those with at least 98-99% identity are more highly preferred, and those with at least 99% identity are most highly preferred. Such polynucleotides 25 include a polynucleotide comprising the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 as well as the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1.

The invention also provides polynucleotides which are complementary to all the above described polynucleotides.

The nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 shows homology with mouse testes-specific 30 angiotensin converting enzyme (Howard et al. Mol.Cell.Biol., 10, 4294-302, 1990). The nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 is a cDNA sequence and comprises a polypeptide encoding sequence (nucleotide 1 to 2413) encoding a polypeptide of 805 amino acids, the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2. The nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 may be identical to the polypeptide encoding sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:1 or it may be a sequence other than

GP30129

the one contained in SEQ ID NO:1, which, as a result of the redundancy (degeneracy) of the genetic code, also encodes the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2. The polypeptide of the SEQ ID NO:2 is structurally related to other proteins of the metalloprotease family, having homology and/or structural similarity with human testes-specific angiotensin converting enzyme (Ehlers et al.

- 5 Proc.Natl.Acad.Sci., 86(20) 7741-7745, 1989).

Preferred polypeptides and polynucleotides of the present invention are expected to have, *inter alia*, similar biological functions/properties to their homologous polypeptides and polynucleotides. Furthermore, preferred polypeptides and polynucleotides of the present invention have at least one MPROT15 activity.

- 10 The present invention also relates to partial or other polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences which were first identified prior to the determination of the corresponding full length sequences of SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2.

Accordingly, in a further aspect, the present invention provides for an isolated polynucleotide which:

- 15 (a) comprises a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, even more preferably at least 97-99% identity to SEQ ID NO:3 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:3;
- (b) has a nucleotide sequence which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, even more
- 20 preferably at least 97-99% identity, to SEQ ID NO:3 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:3;
- (c) the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:3; or
- (d) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, even more preferably at least 97-99% identity, to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID
- 25 NO:4, over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:4;
- as well as the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:3.

The present invention further provides for a polypeptide which:

- (a) comprises an amino acid sequence which has at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, most preferably at least 97-99% identity, to that of SEQ ID NO:4 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:4;
- (b) has an amino acid sequence which is at least 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, yet more preferably at least 95% identity, most preferably

GP30129

- at least 97-99% identity, to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4 over the entire length of SEQ ID NO:4;
- (c) comprises the amino acid of SEQ ID NO:4; and
 - (d) is the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4;
- 5 as well as polypeptides encoded by a polynucleotide comprising the sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:3.

The nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 and the peptide sequence encoded thereby are derived from EST (Expressed Sequence Tag) sequences. It is recognised by those skilled in the art that there will inevitably be some nucleotide sequence reading errors in EST sequences (see

- 10 Adams, M.D. *et al*, Nature 377 (supp) 3, 1995). Accordingly, the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:3 and the peptide sequence encoded therefrom are therefore subject to the same inherent limitations in sequence accuracy. Furthermore, the peptide sequence encoded by SEQ ID NO:3 comprises a region of identity or close homology and/or close structural similarity (for example a conservative amino acid difference) with the closest homologous or structurally similar protein.
- 15 Polynucleotides of the present invention may be obtained, using standard cloning and screening techniques, from a cDNA library derived from mRNA in cells of human skin, using the expressed sequence tag (EST) analysis (Adams, M.D., *et al*. Science (1991) 252:1651-1656; Adams, M.D. *et al*., Nature, (1992) 355:632-634; Adams, M.D., *et al*., Nature (1995) 377 Supp:3-174). Polynucleotides of the invention can also be obtained from natural sources such as
- 20 genomic DNA libraries or can be synthesized using well known and commercially available techniques.

- When polynucleotides of the present invention are used for the recombinant production of polypeptides of the present invention, the polynucleotide may include the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide, by itself; or the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide in reading frame with other coding sequences, such as those encoding a leader or secretory sequence, a pre-, or pro- or prepro- protein sequence, or other fusion peptide portions. For example, a marker sequence which facilitates purification of the fused polypeptide can be encoded. In certain preferred embodiments of this aspect of the invention, the marker sequence is a hexa-histidine peptide, as provided in the pQE vector (Qiagen, Inc.) and described in Gentz *et al*., Proc Natl Acad Sci USA
- 25 (1989) 86:821-824, or is an HA tag. The polynucleotide may also contain non-coding 5' and 3' sequences, such as transcribed, non-translated sequences, splicing and polyadenylation signals, ribosome binding sites and sequences that stabilize mRNA.

Further embodiments of the present invention include polynucleotides encoding polypeptide variants which comprise the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and in which several, for

GP30129

instance from 5 to 10, 1 to 5, 1 to 3, 1 to 2 or 1, amino acid residues are substituted, deleted or added, in any combination.

- 5 Polynucleotides which are identical or sufficiently identical to a nucleotide sequence contained in SEQ ID NO:1, may be used as hybridization probes for cDNA and genomic DNA or as primers for a nucleic acid amplification (PCR) reaction, to isolate full-length cDNAs and genomic clones encoding polypeptides of the present invention and to isolate cDNA and genomic clones of other genes (including genes encoding paralogs from human sources and orthologs and paralogs from species other than human) that have a high sequence similarity to SEQ ID NO:1. Typically these nucleotide sequences are 70% identical, preferably 80% identical, more preferably 90%
- 10 15 identical, most preferably 95% identical to that of the referent. The probes or primers will generally comprise at least 15 nucleotides, preferably, at least 30 nucleotides and may have at least 50 nucleotides. Particularly preferred probes will have between 30 and 50 nucleotides. Particularly preferred primers will have between 20 and 25 nucleotides.

- 15 A polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of the present invention, including homologs from species other than human, may be obtained by a process which comprises the steps of screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or a fragment thereof; and isolating full-length cDNA and genomic clones containing said polynucleotide sequence. Such hybridization techniques are well known to the skilled artisan. Preferred stringent hybridization conditions include overnight incubation at
- 20 25 42°C in a solution comprising: 50% formamide, 5xSSC (150mM NaCl, 15mM trisodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10 % dextran sulfate, and 20 microgram/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA; followed by washing the filters in 0.1x SSC at about 65°C. Thus the present invention also includes polynucleotides obtainable by screening an appropriate library under stringent hybridization conditions with a labeled probe having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or a fragment thereof.

- The skilled artisan will appreciate that, in many cases, an isolated cDNA sequence will be incomplete, in that the region coding for the polypeptide is short at the 5' end of the cDNA. This is a consequence of reverse transcriptase, an enzyme with inherently low 'processivity' (a measure of the ability of the enzyme to remain attached to the template during the polymerisation reaction), failing to complete a DNA copy of the mRNA template during 1st strand cDNA synthesis.

30 There are several methods available and well known to those skilled in the art to obtain full-length cDNAs, or extend short cDNAs, for example those based on the method of Rapid Amplification of cDNA ends (RACE) (see, for example, Frohman et al., PNAS USA 85, 8998-

GP30129

9002, 1988). Recent modifications of the technique, exemplified by the Marathon™ technology (Clontech Laboratories Inc.) for example, have significantly simplified the search for longer cDNAs. In the Marathon™ technology, cDNAs have been prepared from mRNA extracted from a chosen tissue and an 'adaptor' sequence ligated onto each end. Nucleic acid amplification 5 (PCR) is then carried out to amplify the 'missing' 5' end of the cDNA using a combination of gene specific and adaptor specific oligonucleotide primers. The PCR reaction is then repeated using 'nested' primers, that is, primers designed to anneal within the amplified product (typically an adaptor specific primer that anneals further 3' in the adaptor sequence and a gene specific primer that anneals further 5' in the known gene sequence). The products of this reaction can then be 10 analysed by DNA sequencing and a full-length cDNA constructed either by joining the product directly to the existing cDNA to give a complete sequence, or carrying out a separate full-length PCR using the new sequence information for the design of the 5' primer.

Recombinant polypeptides of the present invention may be prepared by processes well known in the art from genetically engineered host cells comprising expression systems.

15 Accordingly, in a further aspect, the present invention relates to expression systems which comprise a polynucleotide or polynucleotides of the present invention, to host cells which are genetically engineered with such expression systems and to the production of polypeptides of the invention by recombinant techniques. Cell-free translation systems can also be employed to produce such proteins using RNAs derived from the DNA constructs of the present invention.

20 For recombinant production, host cells can be genetically engineered to incorporate expression systems or portions thereof for polynucleotides of the present invention. Introduction of polynucleotides into host cells can be effected by methods described in many standard laboratory manuals, such as Davis *et al.*, *Basic Methods in Molecular Biology* (1986) and Sambrook *et al.*, *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, 2nd Ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold 25 Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1989). Preferred such methods include, for instance, calcium phosphate transfection, DEAE-dextran mediated transfection, transvection, microinjection, cationic lipid-mediated transfection, electroporation, transduction, scrape loading, ballistic introduction or infection.

Representative examples of appropriate hosts include bacterial cells, such as *Streptococci*, 30 *Staphylococci*, *E. coli*, *Streptomyces* and *Bacillus subtilis* cells; fungal cells, such as yeast cells and *Aspergillus* cells; insect cells such as *Drosophila* S2 and *Spodoptera* Sf9 cells; animal cells such as CHO, COS, HeLa, C127, 3T3, BHK, HEK 293 and Bowes melanoma cells; and plant cells.

A great variety of expression systems can be used, for instance, chromosomal, episomal and virus-derived systems, e.g., vectors derived from bacterial plasmids, from bacteriophage, from

GP30129

- transposons, from yeast episomes, from insertion elements, from yeast chromosomal elements, from viruses such as baculoviruses, papova viruses, such as SV40, vaccinia viruses, adenoviruses, fowl pox viruses, pseudorabies viruses and retroviruses, and vectors derived from combinations thereof, such as those derived from plasmid and bacteriophage genetic elements, such as cosmids and
- 5 phagemids. The expression systems may contain control regions that regulate as well as engender expression. Generally, any system or vector which is able to maintain, propagate or express a polynucleotide to produce a polypeptide in a host may be used. The appropriate nucleotide sequence may be inserted into an expression system by any of a variety of well-known and routine techniques, such as, for example, those set forth in Sambrook *et al.*, Molecular Cloning, A
- 10 Laboratory Manual (*supra*). Appropriate secretion signals may be incorporated into the desired polypeptide to allow secretion of the translated protein into the lumen of the endoplasmic reticulum, the periplasmic space or the extracellular environment. These signals may be endogenous to the polypeptide or they may be heterologous signals.

If a polypeptide of the present invention is to be expressed for use in screening assays, it is

15 generally preferred that the polypeptide be produced at the surface of the cell. In this event, the cells may be harvested prior to use in the screening assay. If the polypeptide is secreted into the medium, the medium can be recovered in order to recover and purify the polypeptide. If produced intracellularly, the cells must first be lysed before the polypeptide is recovered.

Polypeptides of the present invention can be recovered and purified from recombinant cell

20 cultures by well-known methods including ammonium sulfate or ethanol precipitation, acid extraction, anion or cation exchange chromatography, phosphocellulose chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, affinity chromatography, hydroxylapatite chromatography and lectin chromatography. Most preferably, high performance liquid chromatography is employed for purification. Well known techniques for refolding proteins may be employed to regenerate

25 active conformation when the polypeptide is denatured during intracellular synthesis, isolation and or purification.

This invention also relates to the use of polynucleotides of the present invention as diagnostic reagents. Detection of a mutated form of the gene characterised by the polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO:1 which is associated with a dysfunction will provide a diagnostic tool that can add to,

30 or define, a diagnosis of a disease, or susceptibility to a disease, which results from under-expression, over-expression or altered temporal or spatial expression of the gene. Individuals carrying mutations in the gene may be detected at the DNA level by a variety of techniques.

Nucleic acids for diagnosis may be obtained from a subject's cells, such as from blood, urine, saliva, tissue biopsy or autopsy material. The genomic DNA may be used directly for

GP30129

detection or may be amplified enzymatically by using PCR or other amplification techniques prior to analysis. RNA or cDNA may also be used in similar fashion. Deletions and insertions can be detected by a change in size of the amplified product in comparison to the normal genotype. Point mutations can be identified by hybridizing amplified DNA to labeled MPROT15 nucleotide sequences. Perfectly matched sequences can be distinguished from mismatched duplexes by RNase digestion or by differences in melting temperatures. DNA sequence differences may also be detected by alterations in electrophoretic mobility of DNA fragments in gels, with or without denaturing agents, or by direct DNA sequencing (ee, e.g., Myers *et al.*, *Science* (1985) 230:1242). Sequence changes at specific locations may also be revealed by nuclease protection assays, such as RNase and S1 protection or the chemical cleavage method (see Cotton *et al.*, *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* (1985) 85: 4397-4401). In another embodiment, an array of oligonucleotides probes comprising MPROT15 nucleotide sequence or fragments thereof can be constructed to conduct efficient screening of e.g., genetic mutations. Array technology methods are well known and have general applicability and can be used to address a variety of questions in molecular genetics including gene expression, genetic linkage, and genetic variability (see for example: M.Chee *et al.*, *Science*, Vol 274, pp 610-613 (1996)).

The diagnostic assays offer a process for diagnosing or determining a susceptibility to the Diseases through detection of mutation in the MPROT15 gene by the methods described. In addition, such diseases may be diagnosed by methods comprising determining from a sample derived from a subject an abnormally decreased or increased level of polypeptide or mRNA. Decreased or increased expression can be measured at the RNA level using any of the methods well known in the art for the quantitation of polynucleotides, such as, for example, nucleic acid amplification, for instance PCR, RT-PCR, RNase protection, Northern blotting and other hybridization methods. Assay techniques that can be used to determine levels of a protein, such as a polypeptide of the present invention, in a sample derived from a host are well-known to those of skill in the art. Such assay methods include radioimmunoassays, competitive-binding assays, Western Blot analysis and ELISA assays.

Thus in another aspect, the present invention relates to a diagnostic kit which comprises:

- (a) a polynucleotide of the present invention, preferably the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, or a fragment thereof;
- (b) a nucleotide sequence complementary to that of (a);
- (c) a polypeptide of the present invention, preferably the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 or a fragment thereof; or

GP30129

(d) an antibody to a polypeptide of the present invention, preferably to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2.

It will be appreciated that in any such kit, (a), (b), (c) or (d) may comprise a substantial component. Such a kit will be of use in diagnosing a disease or suspectability to a disease, 5 particularly hypertension, cardiomyopathy, stroke, heart disease, neurodegeneration, Alzheimer's disease and diseases associated with peptide hormone or cytokine processing, amongst others.

The nucleotide sequences of the present invention are also valuable for chromosome localisation. The sequence is specifically targeted to, and can hybridize with, a particular location 10 on an individual human chromosome. The mapping of relevant sequences to chromosomes according to the present invention is an important first step in correlating those sequences with gene 15 associated disease. Once a sequence has been mapped to a precise chromosomal location, the physical position of the sequence on the chromosome can be correlated with genetic map data. Such data are found in, for example, V. McKusick, Mendelian Inheritance in Man (available on-line through Johns Hopkins University Welch Medical Library). The relationship between genes and 20 diseases that have been mapped to the same chromosomal region are then identified through linkage analysis (coinheritance of physically adjacent genes).

The differences in the cDNA or genomic sequence between affected and unaffected individuals can also be determined. If a mutation is observed in some or all of the affected 20 individuals but not in any normal individuals, then the mutation is likely to be the causative agent of the disease.

The gene of the present invention maps to human chromosome Xp22.

The nucleotide sequences of the present invention are also valuable for tissue localisation. Such techniques allow the determination of expression patterns of the human MPROT15 polypeptides in tissues by detection of the mRNAs that encode them. These 25 techniques include *in situ* hybridization techniques and nucleotide amplification techniques, for example PCR. Such techniques are well known in the art. Results from these studies provide an indication of the normal functions of the polypeptides in the organism. In addition, comparative studies of the normal expression pattern of human MPROT15 mRNAs with that of mRNAs encoded by a human MPROT15 gene provide valuable insights into the role of mutant human 30 MPROT15 polypeptides, or that of inappropriate expression of normal human MPROT15 polypeptides, in disease. Such inappropriate expression may be of a temporal, spatial or simply quantitative nature.

The polypeptides of the invention or their fragments or analogs thereof, or cells expressing them, can also be used as immunogens to produce antibodies immunospecific for polypeptides of

GP30129

the present invention. The term "immunospecific" means that the antibodies have substantially greater affinity for the polypeptides of the invention than their affinity for other related polypeptides in the prior art.

Antibodies generated against polypeptides of the present invention may be obtained by 5 administering the polypeptides or epitope-bearing fragments, analogs or cells to an animal, preferably a non-human animal, using routine protocols. For preparation of monoclonal antibodies, any technique which provides antibodies produced by continuous cell line cultures can be used. Examples include the hybridoma technique (Kohler, G. and Milstein, C., *Nature* (1975) 256:495-497), the trioma technique, the human B-cell hybridoma technique (Kozbor *et al.*, *Immunology Today* (1983) 4:72) and the EBV-hybridoma technique (Cole *et al.*, *Monoclonal Antibodies and Cancer Therapy*, 77-96, Alan R. Liss, Inc., 1985).

Techniques for the production of single chain antibodies, such as those described in U.S. Patent No. 4,946,778, can also be adapted to produce single chain antibodies to polypeptides of this invention. Also, transgenic mice, or other organisms, including other mammals, may be used to 15 express humanized antibodies.

The above-described antibodies may be employed to isolate or to identify clones expressing the polypeptide or to purify the polypeptides by affinity chromatography.

Antibodies against polypeptides of the present invention may also be employed to treat the Diseases, amongst others.

In a further aspect, the present invention relates to genetically engineered soluble fusion proteins comprising a polypeptide of the present invention, or a fragment thereof, and various portions of the constant regions of heavy or light chains of immunoglobulins of various subclasses (IgG, IgM, IgA, IgE). Preferred as an immunoglobulin is the constant part of the heavy chain of human IgG, particularly IgG1, where fusion takes place at the hinge region. In a 20 particular embodiment, the Fc part can be removed simply by incorporation of a cleavage sequence which can be cleaved with blood clotting factor Xa. Furthermore, this invention relates to processes for the preparation of these fusion proteins by genetic engineering, and to the use thereof for drug screening, diagnosis and therapy. A further aspect of the invention also relates to polynucleotides encoding such fusion proteins. Examples of fusion protein technology can be 25 found in International Patent Application Nos. WO94/29458 and WO94/22914.

Another aspect of the invention relates to a method for inducing an immunological response in a mammal which comprises inoculating the mammal with a polypeptide of the present invention, adequate to produce antibody and/or T cell immune response to protect said animal from the Diseases hereinbefore mentioned, amongst others. Yet another aspect of the

GP30129

invention relates to a method of inducing immunological response in a mammal which comprises, delivering a polypeptide of the present invention *via* a vector directing expression of the polynucleotide and coding for the polypeptide *in vivo* in order to induce such an immunological response to produce antibody to protect said animal from diseases.

- 5 A further aspect of the invention relates to an immunological/vaccine formulation (composition) which, when introduced into a mammalian host, induces an immunological response in that mammal to a polypeptide of the present invention wherein the composition comprises a polypeptide or polynucleotide of the present invention. The vaccine formulation may further comprise a suitable carrier. Since a polypeptide may be broken down in the stomach, it is
- 10 preferably administered parenterally (for instance, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous, or intradermal injection). Formulations suitable for parenteral administration include aqueous and non-aqueous sterile injection solutions which may contain anti-oxidants, buffers, bacteriostats and solutes which render the formulation isotonic with the blood of the recipient; and aqueous and non-aqueous sterile suspensions which may include suspending agents or thickening agents.
- 15 The formulations may be presented in unit-dose or multi-dose containers, for example, sealed ampoules and vials and may be stored in a freeze-dried condition requiring only the addition of the sterile liquid carrier immediately prior to use. The vaccine formulation may also include adjuvant systems for enhancing the immunogenicity of the formulation, such as oil-in water systems and other systems known in the art. The dosage will depend on the specific activity of
- 20 the vaccine and can be readily determined by routine experimentation.

Polypeptides of the present invention are responsible for one or more biological functions, including one or more disease states, in particular the Diseases hereinbefore mentioned. It is therefore desirous to devise screening methods to identify compounds which stimulate or which inhibit the function of the polypeptide. Accordingly, in a further aspect, the present invention provides for a method of screening compounds to identify those which stimulate or which inhibit the function of the polypeptide. In general, agonists or antagonists may be employed for therapeutic and prophylactic purposes for such Diseases as hereinbefore mentioned. Compounds may be identified from a variety of sources, for example, cells, cell-free preparations, chemical libraries, and natural product mixtures. Such agonists, antagonists or inhibitors so-identified may be natural or modified substrates, ligands, receptors, enzymes, etc., as the case may be, of the polypeptide; or may be structural or functional mimetics thereof (see Coligan *et al.*, Current Protocols in Immunology 1(2):Chapter 5 (1991)).

The screening method may simply measure the binding of a candidate compound to the polypeptide, or to cells or membranes bearing the polypeptide, or a fusion protein thereof by

GP30129

means of a label directly or indirectly associated with the candidate compound. Alternatively, the screening method may involve competition with a labeled competitor. Further, these screening methods may test whether the candidate compound results in a signal generated by activation or inhibition of the polypeptide, using detection systems appropriate to the cells bearing the

5 polypeptide. Inhibitors of activation are generally assayed in the presence of a known agonist and the effect on activation by the agonist by the presence of the candidate compound is observed. Constitutively active polypeptides may be employed in screening methods for inverse agonists or inhibitors, in the absence of an agonist or inhibitor, by testing whether the candidate compound results in inhibition of activation of the polypeptide. Further, the screening methods

10 may simply comprise the steps of mixing a candidate compound with a solution containing a polypeptide of the present invention, to form a mixture, measuring MPROT15 activity in the mixture, and comparing the MPROT15 activity of the mixture to a standard. Fusion proteins, such as those made from Fc portion and MPROT15 polypeptide, as hereinbefore described, can also be used for high-throughput screening assays to identify antagonists for the polypeptide of

15 the present invention (see D. Bennett *et al.*, J Mol Recognition, 8:52-58 (1995); and K. Johanson *et al.*, J Biol Chem, 270(16):9459-9471 (1995)).

The polynucleotides, polypeptides and antibodies to the polypeptide of the present invention may also be used to configure screening methods for detecting the effect of added compounds on the production of mRNA and polypeptide in cells. For example, an ELISA assay

20 may be constructed for measuring secreted or cell associated levels of polypeptide using monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies by standard methods known in the art. This can be used to discover agents which may inhibit or enhance the production of polypeptide(also called antagonist or agonist, respectively) from suitably manipulated cells or tissues.

The polypeptide may be used to identify membrane bound or soluble receptors, if any,

25 through standard receptor binding techniques known in the art. These include, but are not limited to, ligand binding and crosslinking assays in which the polypeptide is labeled with a radioactive isotope (for instance, ¹²⁵I), chemically modified (for instance, biotinylated), or fused to a peptide sequence suitable for detection or purification, and incubated with a source of the putative receptor (cells, cell membranes, cell supernatants, tissue extracts, bodily fluids). Other methods

30 include biophysical techniques such as surface plasmon resonance and spectroscopy. These screening methods may also be used to identify agonists and antagonists of the polypeptide which compete with the binding of the polypeptide to its receptors, if any. Standard methods for conducting such assays are well understood in the art.

GP30129

- Examples of potential polypeptide antagonists include antibodies or, in some cases, oligonucleotides or proteins which are closely related to the ligands, substrates, receptors, enzymes, etc., as the case may be, of the polypeptide, e.g., a fragment of the ligands, substrates, receptors, enzymes, etc.; or small molecules which bind to the polypeptide of the present invention but do not 5 elicit a response, so that the activity of the polypeptide is prevented.

Thus, in another aspect, the present invention relates to a screening kit for identifying agonists, antagonists, ligands, receptors, substrates, enzymes, etc. for polypeptides of the present invention; or compounds which decrease or enhance the production of such polypeptides, which comprises:

- 10 (a) a polypeptide of the present invention;
 - (b) a recombinant cell expressing a polypeptide of the present invention;
 - (c) a cell membrane expressing a polypeptide of the present invention; or
 - (d) antibody to a polypeptide of the present invention;
- which polypeptide is preferably that of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 15 It will be appreciated that in any such kit, (a), (b), (c) or (d) may comprise a substantial component.

It will be readily appreciated by the skilled artisan that a polypeptide of the present invention may also be used in a method for the structure-based design of an agonist, antagonist or inhibitor of the polypeptide, by:

- 20 (a) determining in the first instance the three-dimensional structure of the polypeptide;
- (b) deducing the three-dimensional structure for the likely reactive or binding site(s) of an agonist, antagonist or inhibitor;
- (c) synthesizing candidate compounds that are predicted to bind to or react with the deduced binding or reactive site; and
- 25 (d) testing whether the candidate compounds are indeed agonists, antagonists or inhibitors.

It will be further appreciated that this will normally be an iterative process.

In a further aspect, the present invention provides methods of treating abnormal conditions such as, for instance, hypertension, cardiomyopathy, stroke, heart disease, neurodegeneration, Alzheimer's disease and diseases associated with peptide hormone or cytokine processing, related

- 30 to either an excess of, or an under-expression of, MPROT15 polypeptide activity.

If the activity of the polypeptide is in excess, several approaches are available. One approach comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an inhibitor compound (antagonist) as hereinabove described, optionally in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, in an amount effective to inhibit the function of the polypeptide, such as, for example, by blocking the

GP30129

binding of ligands, substrates, receptors, enzymes, etc., or by inhibiting a second signal, and thereby alleviating the abnormal condition. In another approach, soluble forms of the polypeptides still capable of binding the ligand, substrate, enzymes, receptors, etc. in competition with endogenous polypeptide may be administered. Typical examples of such competitors include fragments of the

5 MPROT15 polypeptide.

In still another approach, expression of the gene encoding endogenous MPROT15 polypeptide can be inhibited using expression blocking techniques. Known such techniques involve the use of antisense sequences, either internally generated or externally administered (see, for example, O'Connor, J Neurochem (1991) 56:560 in Oligodeoxynucleotides as Antisense 10 Inhibitors of Gene Expression, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL (1988)). Alternatively, oligonucleotides which form triple helices ("triplexes") with the gene can be supplied (see, for example, Lee *et al.*, Nucleic Acids Res (1979) 6:3073; Cooney *et al.*, Science (1988) 241:456; Dervan *et al.*, Science (1991) 251:1360). These oligomers can be administered *per se* or the relevant oligomers can be expressed *in vivo*. Synthetic antisense or triplex oligonucleotides may 15 comprise modified bases or modified backbones. Examples of the latter include methylphosphonate, phosphorothioate or peptide nucleic acid backbones. Such backbones are incorporated in the antisense or triplex oligonucleotide in order to provide protection from degradation by nucleases and are well known in the art. Antisense and triplex molecules synthesised with these or other modified backbones also form part of the present invention.

20 In addition, expression of the human MPROT15 polypeptide may be prevented by using ribozymes specific to the human MPROT15 mRNA sequence. Ribozymes are catalytically active RNAs that can be natural or synthetic (see for example Usman, N, *et al.*, Curr. Opin. Struct. Biol (1996) 6(4), 527-33.) Synthetic ribozymes can be designed to specifically cleave human MPROT15 mRNAs at selected positions thereby preventing translation of the human MPROT15 25 mRNAs into functional polypeptide. Ribozymes may be synthesised with a natural ribose phosphate backbone and natural bases, as normally found in RNA molecules. Alternatively the ribozymes may be synthesised with non-natural backbones to provide protection from ribonuclease degradation, for example, 2'-O-methyl RNA, and may contain modified bases.

For treating abnormal conditions related to an under-expression of MPROT15 and its 30 activity, several approaches are also available. One approach comprises administering to a subject a therapeutically effective amount of a compound which activates a polypeptide of the present invention, i.e., an agonist as described above, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to thereby alleviate the abnormal condition. Alternatively, gene therapy may be employed to effect the endogenous production of MPROT15 by the relevant cells in the subject. For example, a

GP30129

polynucleotide of the invention may be engineered for expression in a replication defective retroviral vector, as discussed above. The retroviral expression construct may then be isolated and introduced into a packaging cell transduced with a retroviral plasmid vector containing RNA encoding a polypeptide of the present invention such that the packaging cell now produces

5 infectious viral particles containing the gene of interest. These producer cells may be administered to a subject for engineering cells *in vivo* and expression of the polypeptide *in vivo*. For an overview of gene therapy, see Chapter 20, Gene Therapy and other Molecular Genetic-based Therapeutic Approaches, (and references cited therein) in Human Molecular Genetics, T Strachan and A P Read, BIOS Scientific Publishers Ltd (1996). Another approach is to administer a therapeutic amount of a

10 polypeptide of the present invention in combination with a suitable pharmaceutical carrier.

In a further aspect, the present invention provides for pharmaceutical compositions comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a polypeptide, such as the soluble form of a polypeptide of the present invention, agonist/antagonist peptide or small molecule compound, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient. Such carriers include, but are

15 not limited to, saline, buffered saline, dextrose, water, glycerol, ethanol, and combinations thereof. The invention further relates to pharmaceutical packs and kits comprising one or more containers filled with one or more of the ingredients of the aforementioned compositions of the invention. Polypeptides and other compounds of the present invention may be employed alone or in conjunction with other compounds, such as therapeutic compounds.

20 The composition will be adapted to the route of administration, for instance by a systemic or an oral route. Preferred forms of systemic administration include injection, typically by intravenous injection. Other injection routes, such as subcutaneous, intramuscular, or intraperitoneal, can be used. Alternative means for systemic administration include transmucosal and transdermal administration using penetrants such as bile salts or fusidic acids or other detergents. In addition, if

25 a polypeptide or other compounds of the present invention can be formulated in an enteric or an encapsulated formulation, oral administration may also be possible. Administration of these compounds may also be topical and/or localized, in the form of salves, pastes, gels, and the like.

The dosage range required depends on the choice of peptide or other compounds of the present invention, the route of administration, the nature of the formulation, the nature of the

30 subject's condition, and the judgment of the attending practitioner. Suitable dosages, however, are in the range of 0.1-100 µg/kg of subject. Wide variations in the needed dosage, however, are to be expected in view of the variety of compounds available and the differing efficiencies of various routes of administration. For example, oral administration would be expected to require higher

GP30129

dosages than administration by intravenous injection. Variations in these dosage levels can be adjusted using standard empirical routines for optimization, as is well understood in the art.

- 5 Polypeptides used in treatment can also be generated endogenously in the subject, in treatment modalities often referred to as "gene therapy" as described above. Thus, for example, cells from a subject may be engineered with a polynucleotide, such as a DNA or RNA, to encode a polypeptide *ex vivo*, and for example, by the use of a retroviral plasmid vector. The cells are then introduced into the subject.

- 10 Polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences form a valuable information resource with which to identify further sequences of similar homology. This is most easily facilitated by storing the sequence in a computer readable medium and then using the stored data to search a sequence database using well known searching tools, such as those found in the GCG and Lasergene software packages. Accordingly, in a further aspect, the present invention provides for a computer readable medium having stored thereon a polynucleotide comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 and/or a polypeptide sequence encoded thereby.

15

The following definitions are provided to facilitate understanding of certain terms used frequently hereinbefore.

- 20 "Antibodies" as used herein includes polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies, chimeric, single chain, and humanized antibodies, as well as Fab fragments, including the products of an Fab or other immunoglobulin expression library.

- 25 "Isolated" means altered "by the hand of man" from the natural state. If an "isolated" composition or substance occurs in nature, it has been changed or removed from its original environment, or both. For example, a polynucleotide or a polypeptide naturally present in a living animal is not "isolated," but the same polynucleotide or polypeptide separated from the coexisting materials of its natural state is "isolated", as the term is employed herein.

- 30 "Polynucleotide" generally refers to any polyribonucleotide or polydeoxyribonucleotide, which may be unmodified RNA or DNA or modified RNA or DNA. "Polynucleotides" include, without limitation, single- and double-stranded DNA, DNA that is a mixture of single- and double-stranded regions, single- and double-stranded RNA, and RNA that is mixture of single- and double-stranded regions, hybrid molecules comprising DNA and RNA that may be single-stranded or, more typically, double-stranded or a mixture of single- and double-stranded regions. In addition, "polynucleotide" refers to triple-stranded regions comprising RNA or DNA or both RNA and DNA. The term "polynucleotide" also includes DNAs or RNAs containing one or more modified bases and DNAs or RNAs with backbones modified for stability or for other reasons.

GP30129

"Modified" bases include, for example, tritylated bases and unusual bases such as inosine. A variety of modifications may be made to DNA and RNA; thus, "polynucleotide" embraces chemically, enzymatically or metabolically modified forms of polynucleotides as typically found in nature, as well as the chemical forms of DNA and RNA characteristic of viruses and cells.

- 5 "Polynucleotide" also embraces relatively short polynucleotides, often referred to as oligonucleotides.

"Polypeptide" refers to any peptide or protein comprising two or more amino acids joined to each other by peptide bonds or modified peptide bonds, i.e., peptide isosteres. "Polypeptide" refers to both short chains, commonly referred to as peptides, oligopeptides or oligomers, and to longer chains, generally referred to as proteins. Polypeptides may contain amino acids other than the 20 gene-encoded amino acids. "Polypeptides" include amino acid sequences modified either by natural processes, such as post-translational processing, or by chemical modification techniques which are well known in the art. Such modifications are well described in basic texts and in more detailed monographs, as well as in a voluminous research literature. Modifications 10 may occur anywhere in a polypeptide, including the peptide backbone, the amino acid side-chains and the amino or carboxyl termini. It will be appreciated that the same type of modification may be present to the same or varying degrees at several sites in a given polypeptide. Also, a given polypeptide may contain many types of modifications. Polypeptides may be branched as a result of ubiquitination, and they may be cyclic, with or without branching. Cyclic, branched and 15 branched cyclic polypeptides may result from post-translation natural processes or may be made by synthetic methods. Modifications include acetylation, acylation, ADP-ribosylation, amidation, biotinylation, covalent attachment of flavin, covalent attachment of a heme moiety, covalent attachment of a nucleotide or nucleotide derivative, covalent attachment of a lipid or lipid derivative, covalent attachment of phosphatidylinositol, cross-linking, cyclization, disulfide bond 20 formation, demethylation, formation of covalent cross-links, formation of cystine, formation of pyroglutamate, formylation, gamma-carboxylation, glycosylation, GPI anchor formation, hydroxylation, iodination, methylation, myristoylation, oxidation, proteolytic processing, phosphorylation, prenylation, racemization, selenoylation, sulfation, transfer-RNA mediated addition of amino acids to proteins such as arginylation, and ubiquitination (see, for instance, 25 Proteins - Structure and Molecular Properties, 2nd Ed., T. E. Creighton, W. H. Freeman and Company, New York, 1993; Wold, F., Post-translational Protein Modifications: Perspectives and Prospects, pgs. 1-12 in Post-translational Covalent Modification of Proteins, B. C. Johnson, Ed., Academic Press, New York, 1983; Seifter *et al.*, "Analysis for protein modifications and

GP30129

nonprotein cofactors", Meth Enzymol (1990) 182:626-646 and Rattan *et al.*, "Protein Synthesis: Post-translational Modifications and Aging", Ann NY Acad Sci (1992) 663:48-62).

- "Variant" refers to a polynucleotide or polypeptide that differs from a reference polynucleotide or polypeptide, but retains essential properties. A typical variant of a
- 5 polynucleotide differs in nucleotide sequence from another, reference polynucleotide. Changes in the nucleotide sequence of the variant may or may not alter the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide encoded by the reference polynucleotide. Nucleotide changes may result in amino acid substitutions, additions, deletions, fusions and truncations in the polypeptide encoded by the reference sequence, as discussed below. A typical variant of a polypeptide differs in amino acid
- 10 sequence from another, reference polypeptide. Generally, differences are limited so that the sequences of the reference polypeptide and the variant are closely similar overall and, in many regions, identical. A variant and reference polypeptide may differ in amino acid sequence by one or more substitutions, additions, deletions in any combination. A substituted or inserted amino acid residue may or may not be one encoded by the genetic code. A variant of a polynucleotide
- 15 or polypeptide may be a naturally occurring such as an allelic variant, or it may be a variant that is not known to occur naturally. Non-naturally occurring variants of polynucleotides and polypeptides may be made by mutagenesis techniques or by direct synthesis.

- "Identity," as known in the art, is a relationship between two or more polypeptide sequences or two or more polynucleotide sequences, as determined by comparing the sequences.
- 20 In the art, "identity" also means the degree of sequence relatedness between polypeptide or polynucleotide sequences, as the case may be, as determined by the match between strings of such sequences. "Identity" and "similarity" can be readily calculated by known methods, including but not limited to those described in (*Computational Molecular Biology*, Lesk, A.M., ed., Oxford University Press, New York, 1988; *Biocomputing: Informatics and Genome Projects*,
- 25 Smith, D.W., ed., Academic Press, New York, 1993; *Computer Analysis of Sequence Data*, Part I, Griffin, A.M., and Griffin, H.G., eds., Humana Press, New Jersey, 1994; *Sequence Analysis in Molecular Biology*, von Heijne, G., Academic Press, 1987; and *Sequence Analysis Primer*, Gribskov, M. and Devereux, J., eds., M Stockton Press, New York, 1991; and Carillo, H., and Lipman, D., *SIAM J. Applied Math.*, 48: 1073 (1988). Preferred methods to determine identity
- 30 are designed to give the largest match between the sequences tested. Methods to determine identity and similarity are codified in publicly available computer programs. Preferred computer program methods to determine identity and similarity between two sequences include, but are not limited to, the GCG program package (Devereux, J., et al., *Nucleic Acids Research* 12(1): 387 (1984)), BLASTP, BLASTN, and FASTA (Atschul, S.F. et al., *J. Molec. Biol.* 215: 403-410

GP30129

(1990). The BLAST X program is publicly available from NCBI and other sources (*BLAST Manual*, Altschul, S., et al., NCBI NLM NIH Bethesda, MD 20894; Altschul, S., et al., *J. Mol. Biol.* 215: 403-410 (1990)). The well known Smith Waterman algorithm may also be used to determine identity.

5 Preferred parameters for polypeptide sequence comparison include the following:

1) Algorithm: Needleman and Wunsch, *J. Mol Biol.* 48: 443-453 (1970)

Comparison matrix: BLOSSUM62 from Hentikoff and Hentikoff, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.* 89:10915-10919 (1992)

Gap Penalty: 12

10 Gap Length Penalty: 4

A program useful with these parameters is publicly available as the "gap" program from Genetics Computer Group, Madison WI. The aforementioned parameters are the default parameters for peptide comparisons (along with no penalty for end gaps).

Preferred parameters for polynucleotide comparison include the following:

15 1) Algorithm: Needleman and Wunsch, *J. Mol Biol.* 48: 443-453 (1970)

Comparison matrix: matches = +10, mismatch = 0

Gap Penalty: 50

Gap Length Penalty: 3

Available as: The "gap" program from Genetics Computer Group, Madison WI. These are the
20 default parameters for nucleic acid comparisons.

By way of example, a polynucleotide sequence of the present invention may be identical to the reference sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, that is be 100% identical, or it may include up to a certain integer number of nucleotide alterations as compared to the reference sequence. Such alterations are selected from the group consisting of at least one nucleotide deletion, substitution,
25 including transition and transversion, or insertion, and wherein said alterations may occur at the 5' or 3' terminal positions of the reference nucleotide sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among the nucleotides in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence. The number of nucleotide alterations is determined by multiplying the total number of nucleotides in SEQ ID NO:1 by the
30 numerical percent of the respective percent identity(divided by 100) and subtracting that product from said total number of nucleotides in SEQ ID NO:1, or:

$$n_n \leq x_n - (x_n \cdot y),$$

wherein n_n is the number of nucleotide alterations, x_n is the total number of nucleotides in SEQ ID NO:1, and y is, for instance, 0.70 for 70%, 0.80 for 80%, 0.85 for 85%, 0.90 for 90%, 0.95 for

GP30129

95%, etc., and wherein any non-integer product of x_n and y is rounded down to the nearest integer prior to subtracting it from x_n . Alterations of a polynucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:2 may create nonsense, missense or frameshift mutations in this coding sequence and thereby alter the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide following such 5 alterations.

Similarly, a polypeptide sequence of the present invention may be identical to the reference sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, that is be 100% identical, or it may include up to a certain integer number of amino acid alterations as compared to the reference sequence such that the % identity is less than 100%. Such alterations are selected from the group consisting of at least one 10 amino acid deletion, substitution, including conservative and non-conservative substitution, or insertion, and wherein said alterations may occur at the amino- or carboxy-terminal positions of the reference polypeptide sequence or anywhere between those terminal positions, interspersed either individually among the amino acids in the reference sequence or in one or more contiguous groups within the reference sequence. The number of amino acid alterations for a given % 15 identity is determined by multiplying the total number of amino acids in SEQ ID NO:2 by the numerical percent of the respective percent identity(divided by 100) and then subtracting that product from said total number of amino acids in SEQ ID NO:2, or:

$$n_a \leq x_a - (x_a \cdot y),$$

wherein n_a is the number of amino acid alterations, x_a is the total number of amino acids in SEQ 20 ID NO:2, and y is, for instance 0.70 for 70%, 0.80 for 80%, 0.85 for 85% etc., and wherein any non-integer product of x_a and y is rounded down to the nearest integer prior to subtracting it from x_a .

"Homolog" is a generic term used in the art to indicate a polynucleotide or polypeptide sequence possessing a high degree of sequence relatedness to a subject sequence. Such 25 relatedness may be quantified by determining the degree of identity and/or similarity between the sequences being compared as hereinbefore described. Falling within this generic term are the terms "ortholog", meaning a polynucleotide or polypeptide that is the functional equivalent of a polynucleotide or polypeptide in another species, and "paralog" meaning a functionally similar sequence when considered within the same species.

"Fusion protein" refers to a protein encoded by two, often unrelated, fused genes or fragments thereof. In one example, EP-A-0 464 discloses fusion proteins comprising various portions of constant region of immunoglobulin molecules together with another human protein or part thereof. In many cases, employing an immunoglobulin Fc region as a part of a fusion 30

GP30129

protein is advantageous for use in therapy and diagnosis resulting in, for example, improved pharmacokinetic properties [see, e.g., EP-A 0232 262]. On the other hand, for some uses it would be desirable to be able to delete the Fc part after the fusion protein has been expressed, detected and purified.

5

All publications, including but not limited to patents and patent applications, cited in this specification are herein incorporated by reference as if each individual publication were specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference herein as though fully set forth.

10

GP30129

SEQUENCE INFORMATION

SEQ ID NO:1

ATGTCAAGCTTCTGGCTCTCTCAGCCTGTTGCTGTAACGTGCTCAGTCACC
 ATTGAGGAACAGGCCAACAGACATTGGACAAGTTAACACAGAAGCCGAAGACCTGTC
 5 TATCAAAGTTCACTTGCTTCTTGAATTATAACACCAATTAACTGAAGAGAATGTCAA
 AACATGAATAATGCTGGGACAATGGTCTGCCCTTTAAAGGAACAGTCCACACTGCC
 CAAATGTATCCACTACAAGAAATTCAAAGTACAGTCAGCTCAGCTGCAGGCTTT
 CAGCAAATGGTCTTCAGTGCCTCAGAAGACAAGAGCAAACGGTGAACACAATTCTA
 AATACAATGAGCACCATCTACAGTACTGGAAAAGTTGTAACCCAGATAATCCACAAGAA
 10 TGCTTATTACTTGAACCAGGTTGAATGAAAATATGGCAAACAGTTAGACTACAATGAG
 AGGCTCTGGCTGGGAAAGCTGGAGATCTGAGGTGGCAAGCAGCTGAGGCCATTATAT
 GAAGAGTATGTGGTCTGAAAAATGAGATGGCAAGAGCAAATCATTATGAGGACTATGGG
 GATTATTGGAGAGGAGACTATGAAGTAAATGGGTAGATGGCTATGACTACAGCCGCGC
 15 CAGTTGATTGAAGATGTGGAACATACCTTGAAGAGATTAAACATTATATGAACATCTT
 CATGCCTATGTGAGGGCAAAGTTGATGAATGCCATCCTCTATATCAGTCCAATTGGA
 TGCCCTCCCTGCTATTGCTTGGTATATGGGGTAGATTGGACAAATCTGTACTCT
 TTGACAGTCCCTTGGACAGAAACCAACATAGATGTTACTGATGCAATGGTGGACAG
 GCCTGGGATGACAGAGAATATTCAAGGAGGCCGAGAAGTTCTTGATCTGTTGCTT
 CCTAATATGACTCAAGGATTCTGGAAAATTCCATGCTAACGGACCCAGGAAATGTTGAG
 20 AAAGCAGTCTGCATCCCACAGCTGGGACCTGGGAAGGGCAGTCAGGATCCTTATG
 TGCACAAAGGTGACAATGGACGACTCCTGACAGCTCATCATGAGATGGGCATATCCAG
 TATGATATGGCATATGTCGACAAACCTTTCTGCTAAGAAATGGAGCTAATGAAGGATTC
 CATGAAGCTGTTGGGAAATCATGTCACTTCTGCAGCACACCTAACGATTAAATCC
 ATTGGTCTCTGTCACCCGATTTCAGAAGACAATGAAACAGAAATAACTCTGCTC
 25 AAACAAGCACTCACGATTGTTGGACTCTGCATTACTACATGTTAGAGAAGTGGAGG
 TGGATGGTCTTAAAGGGAAATTCCAAAGACCAGTGGATGAAAAGTGGTGGAGATG
 AAGCGAGAGATAGTTGGGGTGGTGGAACCTGTGCCCATGATGAAACATACTGTGACCCC
 GCATCTCTGTTCCATGTTCTAATGATTACTCATTGCGATATTACACAAGGACCTT
 TACCAATTCCAGTTCAAGAACGACTTGTCAAGCAGCTAAACATGAGGCCCTGAC
 30 AAATGTGACATCTCAAACCTACAGAACGACTGGACAGAAACTGTTCAATATGCTGAGGCTT
 GGAAAATCAGAACCTGGACCTAGCATTGGAAAATGTTGAGGCAAAGAACATGAAT
 GTAAGGCCACTGCTCAACTACTTGAGCCCTATTACCTGGCTGAAAGACCAGAACAG
 ATTCTTTGTTGGGATGGAGTACCGACTGGAGTCCATATGCAAGACAAAGCATCAAAGTG
 AGGATAAGCCTAAATCAGCTTGGAGATAAGCATATGAATGAAACGACAATGAAATG
 35 TACCTGTTCCGATCATGTCATGCTATGCTATGAGGCACTACTTTAAAAGTAAAAAAT
 CAGATGATTCTTTGGGAGGAGGATGTCGAGTGGCTAATTGAAACCAAGAACATCTCC
 TTTAATTCTTGTCACTGCACCTAAATGTCGATATCAATTCTAGAACTGAAAGTT
 GAAAAGGCCATCAGGATGTCGGAGCCGTATCAATGATGCTTCCGTCGAATGACAAC
 AGCCTAGAGTTCTGGGACACACCTGGACCTCTAAACAGCCCCCTGTTCC
 40 ATATGGCTGATTGTTTGGAGTTGATGGAGTGTGATAGTGGTTGGCATTGTCATCCTG
 ATCTTCACTGGGATCAGAGATCGGAAGAAGAAAATAAAGCAAGAAGTGGAGAAAATCCT
 TATGCCCTCATGATATTAGCAAAGGAGAAAATAATCCAGGATTCCAAAACACTGATGAT
 GTTCAGACCTCTTTAG

45

SEQ ID NO:2

MSSSSWLLSLVAVTAAQSTIEEQAKTFLDKFNHEADLFYQSSLASWNYNTNITEENVQNMNNAGDKWSAFLKEQSTLA
 QMYPLQEIQNLTVKLQLQALQQNGSSVLSEDKSRLNLTILNTMSTIYSTGKVCNPDPNQECLLLEPGLNEMANSLDYNE
 RLWAWEWSRSEVGKQLRPLYEEYVVLKNEMARANHYEDYGDYWRGDYEVNGVDGYDYSRGQLIEDVEHTFEEIKPLYEHL
 50 HAYVRAKLMNAYPSYISPICLPAHLLGDMWGRFWTNLYSLTVPGQKPNIDVT DAMVDQAWDAQRIFKEAEKFFFVSVGL
 PNMTQGFWEWSMLTDPGNVQKAVCHPTAWDLKGDFRILMCTKVMDFLTAHHEMGHIQYDMAAYAQPFLLRNNGANEGF
 HEAVGEIMSLAATPKHLKSIGLLSPDFQEDNETEINFLLKQALTIVGTLPFTYMLEKWRWMVFKEIPKDQWMKKWWEM
 KREIVGVVEPVPHDETYCDPASLFHVSDYFSIRYYTRTLYQFQFQEAQCQAAKHEGPLHKCDISNSTEAGQKLFNMLRL
 GKSEPWTLALENVVGAKNMNVRPLLNYFEPLFTWLKDQNKNFVGWSTDWSPYADQSIVKRISLKSALGDKAYEWNDNEM

GP30129

YLFRSSVAYAMROYFLKVNQMI LGEEEDVRVANLKRISFNFTAPKNVSDIIPRTEVEKAIRMSRSRINDAFRLNDN
 SLEFLGIQPTLGPNNQPPVSIW LIVFGVVMGVIVVGIVILIFTGIRDRKKNKARSGENPYASIDISKGENNPFGONTDD
 VQTSF

5 SEQ ID NO:3

ATGAGATTGATGAGGACACAGGTCCAGATGATATCAGTAGTCCTCAAATGATCACAGT
 ATCCCTTGCTGTAAGTGCCTCAGTCCACCATTGAGGAACAGGCAAGACATTTTG
 GACAAGTTAACACAGCGAAGACCTGTTCTATCAAAGTCACTGCTTCTGGAAAT
 TATAACACCAATATTACTGAAGAGAATGTCCAAACATGAATAATGCTGGGACAATGG
 10 TCTGCCTTTAAAGGAACAGTCCACACTGCCAAATGATTCACACTACAAGAAATTCA
 AATCTCACAGTCAGGCTTCAGCTGCAGGCTCTCAGCAAAATGGGTCTCAGTGCCTCA
 GAAGACAAGAGCAAACGGTTAACACAATTCTAAATACAATGAGCACCACATCACAGTACT
 GAAAAAGTTGTAACCCAGATAATCCACAAAGAATGCTTAACTTGAACCAGGTTGAAT
 15 GAAAATAATGGCAAACAGTTAGACTACAATGAGAGGCTCTGGGCTTGGAAAGCTGGAGA
 TCTGAGGTCGGCAAGCAGCTGAGGCCATTATATGAAGAGTATGTGGTCTTGAAGAAATGAG
 ATGGCAAGAGCAAATCATTATGAGGACTATGGGATTATGGAGAGGAGACTATGAAGTA
 AATGGGTTAGATGGCTATGACTACAGCCGCGCCAGTTGATTGAAGATGTGGAACATACC
 TTTGAAGAGAITAAACATTATATGAACATCTCATGCCTATGTGAGGGCAAAGTTGATG
 20 AATGCCTATCCTTCTATATCAGTCCAATTGGATGCCTCCCTGCTCATTGCTTGGTAT
 ATGTGGGTAGATTTGGACAAATCTGACTCTTGACAGTCCCTTGGACAGAAACCA
 AACATAGATGTTACTGATGCAATGGTGGACCAGGCCTGGGATGCACAGAGAATATTCAAG
 GAGGGCGAGAAGTTCTTGATCTGCTTCTCCTAATATGACTCAAGGATTCTGGGAA
 AATTCCATGCTAACGGACCCAGGAATGTTAGAAAGCAGTCTGCCATCCCACAGCTTGG
 GACCTGGGAAGGGCAGCTCAGGATCCTAATGTCACAAAGGTGACAATGGACAGACTTC
 25 CTGACAGCTCATCATGAGATGGGCATATCCAGTATGATATGGCATATGCTGCACAACCT
 TTTCTGCTAACGAAATGGAGCTAATGAAGGATTCCATGAAGCTGTTGGGAAATCATGTCA
 CTTTCTGCAGCCACACTAACGATTAAACATTGCTCAAACAAAGCACTCACGATTGTTGGACT
 GAAGACAATGAAACAGAAATAACCTCCTGCTCAAACAAAGCACTCACGATTGTTGGACT
 30 CTGCCATTACTTACATGTTAGAGAAGTGGAGGTGGATGTTAAAGGGAAATTCCAA
 AAAGACCAGTGGATGAAAAGTGGTGGAGATGAAATATTACACAAGGACCCCTTACCAA
 TTCCAGTTCAAGAAGCAGCTTGTCAGCAGCTAACATGAAGGCCCTGACCAAATGT
 GACATCTAACACTACAGAAGCTGGACAGAAACTGTTCAATATGCTGAGGCTTGGAAA
 TCAGAACCCCTGGACCCCTAGCATTGAAAATGTTGAGGAGCAAAAGAACATGAATGTAAGG
 CCACTGCTCAACTACTTGAGGCCATTATTCACCTGGCTGAAAGGACCAAGAACAGAATTCT
 35 TTTGTGGGATGGAGTACCGACTGGAGTCCATGGGAAGTCTTCAATTCTCTTGATTGTG
 TCTGTGCCACAAGTGAAGATGTTGTTGTTCTACAGGGAGGAGTGTGAGTG
 GCTAATTGAAACCAAGAACATCTCTTAAATTCTTGTCACTGCACCTAAAATGTGTCT
 GATATCATTCTAGAAACTGAAGTGAAGGCAACAGGCTCATCAGGATGTCGGAGCCGTATCAAT
 GATGCTTCCGCTGAATGACAACAGCCTAGAGTTCTGGGATACAGCCAACACTTGG
 40 CCTCCTAACAGCCCCCTGTTCCATATGGCTGATTGTTTGGAGTGTGATGGAGTG
 ATAGTGGTTGGCATTGTCATCCTGATCTCACTGGGATCAGAGATCGGAAGAAGAAAAT
 AAAGCAAGAAGTGGAGAAAATCCTTATGCCTCCATCGATATTAGCAAAGGAGAAAATAAT
 CCAGGATTCCAAAACACTGATGATGTTAGACCTCCTTTAG

45 SEQ ID NO:4

Query: 37 SSPPNDHSILVAVTAAQS----TIEEQAKTFLDKFNHEADLFYQSSLASWNYNTNITEE 204
 SS H T+AQS T E +A F+++++ ++ ++ + + A+WNYNTNIT E
 Sbjct: 48 SSQTTTHQATAHQTSQAQSPNLVTDEAEASKFVEYDRTSQVWWNEYAEANWNYNTNITTE 107

50 Query: 205 NVQNMMNAGDKWSAFLKEQSTLAQMYPLQEIQNLTVKLQLQALQQNGSSVLSEDKS KRLN 384
 ++ + + + + T A+ + + ++QN T+K ++ +Q + L + + N
 Sbjct: 108 TSKILLQKNMQIANHTLKYGTQARKFDVNQLQNTTIKRIIKKVQDLERAALPAQELEYN 167

55 Query: 385 TILNTMSTIYSTGKVCNPDPNQECLLLEPGLNEIMANSLDYNERLWAWESEWRSEVGKQLR 564
 IL M T YS VC+P+ CL LEP L +MA S Y + LWAVE WR + G+ +

GP30129

Sbjct: 168 KILLDMETTYSVATVCHPNG--SCLQLEPDLTNVMATSRKYEDLLWAEGWRDKAGRAIL 225
 Query: 565 PLYEEYVVLKNEMARANHYEDYGDYWRGDYEVNGVDGYDYSRGQLIEDVEHTFEEIKPLY 744
 Y +YV L N+ AR N Y D GD WR YE ++ +D+E F+E++PLY
 5 Sbjct: 226 QFYPKYVELINQAARLNGYVDAGDSWRSMYETPSLE-----QDLERLFQELQPLY 275
 Query: 745 EHLHAYVRAKLMNAYPS-YISPIGCLPAHLLGDMWGRFWTNLYSLTVPGQKPNIDVTDA 921
 +LHAYVR L Y + +I+ G +PAHLLG+MW + W+N+Y L VPF P++D T+A
 Sbjct: 276 LNLHAYVRRALHRHYGAQHINLEGPIPAHLLGNMWAQTSWSNIYDLVVPFFSAPSMDTTEA 335
 10 Query: 922 MVDQAWDAQRIFKEAEKFFFVSVGLPNMTQGFWMENSMLTDPGNVQKAVCHPTAWDLGKG-D 1098
 M+ Q W +R+FKEA+ FF S+GL + FW SML P + ++ VCH +AWD G D
 Sbjct: 336 MLKQGWTPRRMFKEADDFTSLGLLPVPPEFWNSMILEKPTDGREVVCHASAWDFYNGKD 395
 15 Query: 1099 FRILMCTKVITMDDFLTAHHHEMGHIQYDMAYAAQPFLRLRNGANEGFHEAVGEIMSLSAATP 1278
 FRI CT V ++D + AHHEMGHIQY M Y P LR GAN GFHEA+G++++LS +TP
 Sbjct: 396 FRIKQCTTVNLLEDLVVAHHHEMGHIQYFMQYKDLPVALREGANPGFHEAIGDVLA SVSTP 455
 20 Query: 1279 KHLKSIGLLSPDFQEDNETEINFLLKQALTIVGTLPTYMLEKWRWMVFKEIPKDQWMK 1458
 KHL S+ LLS + D E +INFL+K AL + +PF+Y+++WRW VF G I K+ + +
 Sbjct: 456 KHLHSLNLLSSEGGSD-EHDINFLMKMALDKIAFIPFSYLVWDQWRWRVFDGSITKENYNQ 514
 Query: 1459 KWWEMK 1476
 +WW ++
 25 Sbjct: 515 EWWSLR 520

SEQ ID NO:4 refers to the amino acid sequence labeled "Query"

GP30129

SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> SmithKline Beecham plc

5

<120> Novel Compounds

<130> GP30129

10

<160> 4

<170> FastSEQ for Windows Version 3.0

15

<210> 1

<211> 2418

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

20

<400> 1

	atgtcaagct cttcctggct ctttctcagc cttgttgctg taactgctgc tcagtccacc	60
	attgaggaac aggccaagac atttttggac aagttaacc acgaagccga agacctgttc	120
	tatcaaagtt cacttgcttc ttggaattat aacaccaata ttactgaaga gaatgtccaa	180
	aacatgaata atgctgggaa caaatggtct gcctttttaa aggaacagtc cacacttgcc	240
25	caaatgtatc cactacaaga aattcagaat ctcacagtca agttcagct gcaggcttctt	300
	cagcaaaatg ggtcttcaagt gctctcagaa gacaagagca aacgggtgaa cacaattcta	360
	aatacaatga gcaccatcta cagtactgga aaagtttgc acccagataa tccacaagaa	420
	tgcttattac ttgaaccagg tttgaatgaa ataatggcaa acagtttgc ctacaatgag	480
	aggctctggg ctggggaaag ctggagatct gaggtcgca agcagctgag gccatttat	540
30	gaagagtagt tggtcttggaa aaatgagatg gcaagagcaa atcattatga ggactatggg	600
	gattatttggaa gaggagacta tgaagtaaat ggggttagatg gctatgacta cagccgcggc	660
	cagttgatttgc aagatgtgga acatacccccga aaccattata tgaacatctt	720
	catgcctatg tgagggcaaa gttgatgaaat gctatccctt cctatatcag tccaaatttggaa	780
35	tgccctccctg ctcatttgc tggtgatatg tggggtagat tttggacaaa tctgtactct	840
	ttgacagttc cctttggaca gaaacccaaac atagatgtta ctgatgcaat ggtggaccag	900
	gcctgggatg cacagagaat attcaaggag gccgagaagt tctttgtatc tgggttgc	960
	ccttaatatga ctcaaggatt ctggggaaat tccatgctaa cggacccagg aaatgttcag	1020
	aaagcagtct gccatcccac agcttgggac ctggggaaagg gcgacttcag gatccttatg	1080
40	tgcacaaaagg tgacaatgga cgacttcctg acagctcatc atgagatggg gcatatccag	1140
	tatgatatgg catatgctgc acaaccccccga atggagctaa tgaaggatcc	1200
	catgaagctg ttggggaaat catgtcactt tctgcagccaa cacctaagca tttaaaatcc	1260
	attggtcttc tgtcaccggaa tttcaagaa gacaatgaaa cagaaataaa cttcctgctc	1320

GP30129

	aaacaaggcac tcacgattgt tgggactctg ccatttactt acatgttaga gaagtggagg	1380
	tggatgtct ttaaagggga aattccaaa gaccagtggta tgaaaaagtg gtgggagatg	1440
	aagcgagaga tagttgggtt ggtggAACCT gtgcCcCAtG atgaaACATA ctgtgACCCc	1500
5	gcAtCtCtGt tCCatGtttc taatgattac tcattcatc gatattacac aaggaccCtt	1560
	taccaattcc agttcaaga agcactttgt caagcagcta aacatgaagg ccctctgcac	1620
	aatgtgaca tctcaaactc tacagaagct ggacagaaac tggtaatat gctgaggcTT	1680
	ggaaaatcag aaccctggac cctagcattg gaaaatgtt taggagcaaa gaacatgaat	1740
	gtAaggccac tgctcaacta ctttgagccc ttatttacct ggctgaaaga ccagaacaag	1800
10	aattcttttggatggag taccgactgg agtccatATG cagaccaaa catcaaAGTg	1860
	aggataagcc taaaatcagc tcttggagat aaagcatatg aatggAACGA caatgaaatg	1920
	tacctgttcc gatcatctgt tgcatatgt atgaggcagt actttttaaa agtaaaaaat	1980
	cagatgattc ttttggggaa ggaggatgtg cgagtggcta atttgaacc aagaatctcc	2040
15	tttaatttct ttgtcactgc actaaaaat gtgtctgata tcattcctag aactgaagtt	2100
	gaaaaggcca tcaggatgtc cggagccgt atcaatgtg cttccgtct gaatgacaac	2160
	agcctagagt ttctggggat acagccaaca cttggacctc ctaaccagecc ccctgttcc	2220
	atatggctga ttgttttgg agttgtgatg ggagtgatag tggttggcat tgcatacctg	2280
	atcttcactg ggatcagaga tcggaagaag aaaaataaaag caagaagtgg agaaaatcct	2340
	tatgcctcca tcgatattag caaaggagaa aataatccag gattccaaaa cactgatgat	2400
20	gttcagaccccttttag	2418
	<210> 2	
	<211> 805	
	<212> PRT	
	<213> Homo sapiens	
25	<400> 2	
	Met Ser Ser Ser Trp Leu Leu Leu Ser Leu Val Ala Val Thr Ala	
	1 5 10 15	
	Ala Gln Ser Thr Ile Glu Glu Gln Ala Lys Thr Phe Leu Asp Lys Phe	
30	20 25 30	
	Asn His Glu Ala Glu Asp Leu Phe Tyr Gln Ser Ser Leu Ala Ser Trp	
	35 40 45	
	Asn Tyr Asn Thr Asn Ile Thr Glu Glu Asn Val Gln Asn Met Asn Asn	
	50 55 60	
35	Ala Gly Asp Lys Trp Ser Ala Phe Leu Lys Glu Gln Ser Thr Leu Ala	
	65 70 75 80	
	Gln Met Tyr Pro Leu Gln Glu Ile Gln Asn Leu Thr Val Lys Leu Gln	
	85 90 95	
40	Leu Gln Ala Leu Gln Gln Asn Gly Ser Ser Val Leu Ser Glu Asp Lys	
	100 105 110	
	Ser Lys Arg Leu Asn Thr Ile Leu Asn Thr Met Ser Thr Ile Tyr Ser	
	115 120 125	

GP30129

Thr Gly Lys Val Cys Asn Pro Asp Asn Pro Gln Glu Cys Leu Leu Leu
 130 135 140
 Glu Pro Gly Leu Asn Glu Ile Met Ala Asn Ser Leu Asp Tyr Asn Glu
 145 150 155 160
 5 Arg Leu Trp Ala Trp Glu Ser Trp Arg Ser Glu Val Gly Lys Gln Leu
 165 170 175
 Arg Pro Leu Tyr Glu Glu Tyr Val Val Leu Lys Asn Glu Met Ala Arg
 180 185 190
 Ala Asn His Tyr Glu Asp Tyr Gly Asp Tyr Trp Arg Gly Asp Tyr Glu
 10 195 200 205
 Val Asn Gly Val Asp Gly Tyr Asp Tyr Ser Arg Gly Gln Leu Ile Glu
 210 215 220
 Asp Val Glu His Thr Phe Glu Glu Ile Lys Pro Leu Tyr Glu His Leu
 225 230 235 240
 15 His Ala Tyr Val Arg Ala Lys Leu Met Asn Ala Tyr Pro Ser Tyr Ile
 245 250 255
 Ser Pro Ile Gly Cys Leu Pro Ala His Leu Leu Gly Asp Met Trp Gly
 260 265 270
 Arg Phe Trp Thr Asn Leu Tyr Ser Leu Thr Val Pro Phe Gly Gln Lys
 20 275 280 285
 Pro Asn Ile Asp Val Thr Asp Ala Met Val Asp Gln Ala Trp Asp Ala
 290 295 300
 Gln Arg Ile Phe Lys Glu Ala Glu Lys Phe Phe Val Ser Val Gly Leu
 305 310 315 320
 25 Pro Asn Met Thr Gln Gly Phe Trp Glu Asn Ser Met Leu Thr Asp Pro
 325 330 335
 Gly Asn Val Gln Lys Ala Val Cys His Pro Thr Ala Trp Asp Leu Gly
 340 345 350
 Lys Gly Asp Phe Arg Ile Leu Met Cys Thr Lys Val Thr Met Asp Asp
 30 355 360 365
 Phe Leu Thr Ala His His Glu Met Gly His Ile Gln Tyr Asp Met Ala
 370 375 380
 Tyr Ala Ala Gln Pro Phe Leu Leu Arg Asn Gly Ala Asn Glu Gly Phe
 385 390 395 400
 35 His Glu Ala Val Gly Glu Ile Met Ser Leu Ser Ala Ala Thr Pro Lys
 405 410 415
 His Leu Lys Ser Ile Gly Leu Leu Ser Pro Asp Phe Gln Glu Asp Asn
 420 425 430
 Glu Thr Glu Ile Asn Phe Leu Leu Lys Gln Ala Leu Thr Ile Val Gly
 435 440 445
 40 Thr Leu Pro Phe Thr Tyr Met Leu Glu Lys Trp Arg Trp Met Val Phe
 450 455 460

GP30129

Lys Gly Glu Ile Pro Lys Asp Gln Trp Met Lys Lys Trp Trp Glu Met
 465 470 475 480
 Lys Arg Glu Ile Val Gly Val Val Glu Pro Val Pro His Asp Glu Thr
 485 490 495
 5 Tyr Cys Asp Pro Ala Ser Leu Phe His Val Ser Asn Asp Tyr Ser Phe
 500 505 510
 Ile Arg Tyr Tyr Thr Arg Thr Leu Tyr Gln Phe Gln Phe Gln Glu Ala
 515 520 525
 Leu Cys Gln Ala Ala Lys His Glu Gly Pro Leu His Lys Cys Asp Ile
 10 530 535 540
 Ser Asn Ser Thr Glu Ala Gly Gln Lys Leu Phe Asn Met Leu Arg Leu
 545 550 555 560
 Gly Lys Ser Glu Pro Trp Thr Leu Ala Leu Glu Asn Val Val Gly Ala
 565 570 575
 15 Lys Asn Met Asn Val Arg Pro Leu Leu Asn Tyr Phe Glu Pro Leu Phe
 580 585 590
 Thr Trp Leu Lys Asp Gln Asn Lys Asn Ser Phe Val Gly Trp Ser Thr
 595 600 605
 Asp Trp Ser Pro Tyr Ala Asp Gln Ser Ile Lys Val Arg Ile Ser Leu
 20 610 615 620
 Lys Ser Ala Leu Gly Asp Lys Ala Tyr Glu Trp Asn Asp Asn Glu Met
 625 630 635 640
 Tyr Leu Phe Arg Ser Ser Val Ala Tyr Ala Met Arg Gln Tyr Phe Leu
 645 650 655
 25 Lys Val Lys Asn Gln Met Ile Leu Phe Gly Glu Glu Asp Val Arg Val
 660 665 670
 Ala Asn Leu Lys Pro Arg Ile Ser Phe Asn Phe Phe Val Thr Ala Pro
 675 680 685
 Lys Asn Val Ser Asp Ile Ile Pro Arg Thr Glu Val Glu Lys Ala Ile
 30 690 695 700
 Arg Met Ser Arg Ser Arg Ile Asn Asp Ala Phe Arg Leu Asn Asp Asn
 705 710 715 720
 Ser Leu Glu Phe Leu Gly Ile Gln Pro Thr Leu Gly Pro Pro Asn Gln
 725 730 735
 35 Pro Pro Val Ser Ile Trp Leu Ile Val Phe Gly Val Val Met Gly Val
 740 745 750
 Ile Val Val Gly Ile Val Ile Leu Ile Phe Thr Gly Ile Arg Asp Arg
 755 760 765
 Lys Lys Lys Asn Lys Ala Arg Ser Gly Glu Asn Pro Tyr Ala Ser Ile
 40 770 775 780
 Asp Ile Ser Lys Gly Glu Asn Asn Pro Gly Phe Gln Asn Thr Asp Asp
 785 790 795 800

GP30129

Val Gln Thr Ser Phe

805

<210> 3

5 <211> 2262

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

GP30129

gatgtttcc gtctgaatga caacagccta gagttctgg ggatacagcc aacacttgg 2040
 cctcctaacc agccccctgt ttccatatgg ctgattttt ttggagttgt gatgggagtg 2100
 atagtggttg gcattgtcat cctgatcttc actggatca gagatcgaa gaagaaaaat 2160
 5 aaagcaagaa gtggagaaaa tccttatgcc tccatcgata ttagcaaagg agaaaataat 2220
 ccaggattcc aaaacactga tgatgttcag accttccttt ag 2262

<210> 4
 <211> 480
 <212> PRT
 10 <213> Homo sapiens

<400> 4

Ser Ser Pro Pro Asn Asp His Ser Ile Leu Val Ala Val Thr Ala Ala
 1 5 10 15

15 Gln Ser Thr Ile Glu Glu Gln Ala Lys Thr Phe Leu Asp Lys Phe Asn
 20 25 30

His Glu Ala Glu Asp Leu Phe Tyr Gln Ser Ser Leu Ala Ser Trp Asn
 35 40 45

Tyr Asn Thr Asn Ile Thr Glu Glu Asn Val Gln Asn Met Asn Asn Ala
 20 50 55 60

25 Gly Asp Lys Trp Ser Ala Phe Leu Lys Glu Gln Ser Thr Leu Ala Gln
 65 70 75 80

Met Tyr Pro Leu Gln Glu Ile Gln Asn Leu Thr Val Lys Leu Gln Leu
 85 90 95

30 Gln Ala Leu Gln Gln Asn Gly Ser Ser Val Leu Ser Glu Asp Lys Ser
 100 105 110

Lys Arg Leu Asn Thr Ile Leu Asn Thr Met Ser Thr Ile Tyr Ser Thr
 115 120 125

35 Gly Lys Val Cys Asn Pro Asp Asn Pro Gln Glu Cys Leu Leu Glu
 130 135 140

Pro Gly Leu Asn Glu Ile Met Ala Asn Ser Leu Asp Tyr Asn Glu Arg
 145 150 155 160

Leu Trp Ala Trp Glu Ser Trp Arg Ser Glu Val Gly Lys Gln Leu Arg
 165 170 175

40 Pro Leu Tyr Glu Glu Tyr Val Val Leu Lys Asn Glu Met Ala Arg Ala
 180 185 190

Asn His Tyr Glu Asp Tyr Gly Asp Tyr Trp Arg Gly Asp Tyr Glu Val
 195 200 205

Asn Gly Val Asp Gly Tyr Asp Tyr Ser Arg Gly Gln Leu Ile Glu Asp
 210 215 220

Val Glu His Thr Phe Glu Glu Ile Lys Pro Leu Tyr Glu His Leu His
 225 230 235 240

GP30129

Ala Tyr Val Arg Ala Lys Leu Met Asn Ala Tyr Pro Ser Tyr Ile Ser
 245 250 255
 Pro Ile Gly Cys Leu Pro Ala His Leu Leu Gly Asp Met Trp Gly Arg
 260 265 270
 5 Phe Trp Thr Asn Leu Tyr Ser Leu Thr Val Pro Phe Gly Gln Lys Pro
 275 280 285
 Asn Ile Asp Val Thr Asp Ala Met Val Asp Gln Ala Trp Asp Ala Gln
 290 295 300
 Arg Ile Phe Lys Glu Ala Glu Lys Phe Phe Val Ser Val Gly Leu Pro
 10 305 310 315 320
 Asn Met Thr Gln Gly Phe Trp Glu Asn Ser Met Leu Thr Asp Pro Gly
 325 330 335
 Asn Val Gln Lys Ala Val Cys His Pro Thr Ala Trp Asp Leu Gly Lys
 340 345 350
 15 Gly Asp Phe Arg Ile Leu Met Cys Thr Lys Val Thr Met Asp Asp Phe
 355 360 365
 Leu Thr Ala His His Glu Met Gly His Ile Gln Tyr Asp Met Ala Tyr
 370 375 380
 Ala Ala Gln Pro Phe Leu Leu Arg Asn Gly Ala Asn Glu Gly Phe His
 20 385 390 395 400
 Glu Ala Val Gly Glu Ile Met Ser Leu Ser Ala Ala Thr Pro Lys His
 405 410 415
 Leu Lys Ser Ile Gly Leu Leu Ser Pro Asp Phe Gln Glu Asp Asn Glu
 420 425 430
 25 Thr Glu Ile Asn Phe Leu Leu Lys Gln Ala Leu Thr Ile Val Gly Thr
 435 440 445
 Leu Pro Phe Thr Tyr Met Leu Glu Lys Trp Arg Trp Met Val Phe Lys
 450 455 460
 Gly Glu Ile Pro Lys Asp Gln Trp Met Lys Lys Trp Trp Glu Met Lys
 30 465 470 475 480